

EDITORIAL

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A group of youth from Basin Baptist Church attended the Xtreme Winter youth conference last weekend in Gatlinburg, Tennessee with their youth leaders. The youth enjoyed messages from Christian speakers including Tom Richter and Jerrod Gunter. They also heard musical performances by Christian artists The Chapels, Andy Mineo, Colton Dixon, Anne Wilson, and Crowder. The youth that attended the conference were Braylon Samuel, Levi Daniels, Jackson Cowen, Kayedance Baxley, Lucas Farris, Maddie Harlin, and Reed Brewer. They all agreed it was a great experience, and they want to go again soon. They also encourage other church youth groups to consider going to the conference.

Elba Police Report

This report reflects activity for the Elba Police Department from Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2023, through Monday, Jan. 1, 2024, as reported to and dispatched from the Coffee County 911 Dispatch Center –

Tuesday, Dec. 26 – Suspicious vehicle reported at Elba Country Club (3:06 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 990 Hwy 203 (3:19 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 333 Plant Ave (8:28 a.m.); Reckless driver reported on Hwy 84 – w/ warning issued (7:27 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 441 Plant Ave (9:47 p.m.).

Four traffic stops resulted in three written warnings, and one verbal warning.

Wednesday, Dec. 27 – Animal complaint reported at 232 Dr Roberts Dr (11:04 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 349 County Rd 502 (12:37 p.m.); Drug activity reported at 991 Winston Ave (5:33 p.m.). Six traffic stops resulted in three verbal warnings, two written warnings, and one citation.

Thursday, Dec. 28 – Suspicious person reported at 612 Adams Ave (8:30 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

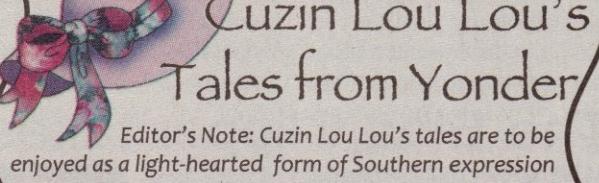
Friday, Dec. 29 – Suspicious person reported at 990 Hwy 203 (6:43 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1025 Drayton Ave (9:13 p.m.). Five traffic stops resulted in four written warnings, and one verbal warning.

Saturday, Dec. 30 – Suspicious circumstances reported at 475 Hwy 203 (5:59 a.m.); Missing person reported at 2272 Taylor Mill Rd (3:33 p.m.). Eight traffic stops resulted in six verbal warnings, and two written warnings.

Sunday, Dec. 31 – Suspicious person reported at 715 Troy Hwy (10:27 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 469 Claxton Ave N (11:47 a.m.). Twelve traffic stops resulted in four verbal warnings, six written warnings, one advice given, and one citation.

Monday, Jan. 1 – Report of shots fired on Martin Luther King Dr (12:04 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported in area of Thomas and Lee streets (12:26 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 747 Adams Ave (12:30 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 606 Buford St (8:00 a.m.); Fireworks complaint reported at 804 Hwy 203 (9:30 p.m.).

Share Your Views... Write a Letter to the Editor



Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Cuzin Lou Lou was out of town for a few days last week, and while she was gone Sister did something almost unbelievable...she tidied up Lou Lou's room and washed all her dirty clothes!

Sister knew Lou Lou would return home tired from her trip, and she would not have time to get all those things done before the New Year. So, Sister won herself a "Good Sister Badge" by doing those things for Lou Lou.

It was a pleasant surprise for Lou Lou! She knew Sister had that nice ness in her all along.

Now, though, Lou Lou has to wonder if it will come back to haunt her in the upcoming year. She just feels there will be a "remember when I cleaned and washed your clothes while you were away..." moment.

Maybe it was simply because Sister carries out Mama's old New Year's beliefs and thinks all the laundry must be completed before the end of the New Year. Either way...Lou Lou was the winner this go-round due to Sister's gift to her.

Now, talking about those New Year's beliefs, Sister did take it a step further this year. She apparently had been doing some "reading" about the superstitions that go along with the New Year's Day holiday, and she decided that not only could the Yonder Gang not wash clothes on New Year's Day, but they also could not wash the dishes during the day either.

Since the gang enjoys a meal of pork chops, black-eyed peas, and cabbage with cornbread on the day each year, that meant there were plenty of dirty dishes piled in the sink by day's end. Papa was the unfortunate one that got the joy of loading the dishwasher on Jan. 2nd and cleaning the kitchen back up. Let's just say...he was not a fan of Sister's newly added superstition.

Lou Lou is not a big believer in those superstitions, but she gladly goes along with them each year for a couple of reasons. Number one – the food is good. Number two – it helps Sister hold on to a memory of Mama of something the two shared. That alone is enough to keep honoring the superstitions.

One thing the gang does not ever plan to do is let go of things they shared with Mama, and that includes observing New Year's superstitions. Who knows... maybe one day those peas and greens will actually bring on some extra good luck and cash! It certainly won't hurt to give it a whirl each year.

And...if we need to not wash the clothes and/or dishes one day to help keep folks safe...well, so be it. Papa needs something to do each Jan. 2nd anyway.

Here's hoping you all have a great 2024, and remember...

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

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Linda Hodge - EDITOR

Ricky Mularz - SPORTS

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REVIEW

(Continued from Page ONE)

a big economic boost; Enterprise man Shannon Scott Anthony faces multiple charges following July 15th standoff/manhunt in Enterprise; Jarrett Nelson hired as new band director for Zion Chapel School; Employment hearing for Elba Police Chief Troy Staley begins

AUGUST 2023 – Elba Board of Education members accept resignation of Jason Tucker as vice principal for Elba schools; Former New Brockton teacher HeartLee Pittman pleads guilty to distributing obscene material to a student; Elba Police Chief Troy Staley terminated after city council members uphold decision to terminate made by Mayor Tom Maddox; Matthew Gary Baker and Tiffany Jo Baker arrested in connection to burglary at Zion Chapel School; Zion Chapel duo completes high school fishing careers with fourth place finish at national event; Elba receives multiple awards at Main Street Alabama conference; Elba football team members pick up trash around downtown area to ‘give back’ to the community

SEPTEMBER 2023 – Juron Waldon of Hartford, Ala. arrested and charged with murder in the 2020 death of Elba’s Donta Jaquin Rogers; Scott Jones named the new Elba/Jack Postmaster; Alabama Department of Corrections inmate Daniel Lee Smallwood escapes from local work release facility after he walks off jobsite, and a search begins; With passing of Fiscal Year 2024 budget, county employees get COLA pay increase; New Brockton town officials celebrate Officer Stefan Caldwell’s completion of the police academy; Elba BOE members thank Greg Sowell for his approximate 12 years of service as a school board member following his resignation from the board; Elba City Council appoints Debra Clark to finish the unexpired term vacated by Greg Sowell on the school board; Alice Edwards of Elba arrested on arson charge after starting a fire at a Claxton Avenue home; Coffee County’s 911 Central dispatch center begins operations in New Brockton; Elba BOE affirms appointment of Debra Clark to school board

OCTOBER 2023 – Coffee County Lake closes for repairs and improvements; New Brockton Mayor



Governor Kaye Ivey speaks in October at the grand opening of the new Sunbelt Solomon facility in Elba, Alabama.

Ralph Medley and city clerk Debra Andrews resign their positions; Elba and New Brockton bands each bring two ‘best in class’ awards home from A-Town Invitational Marching Band Contest; Elba native Gunter Akridge releases book – Kill the Dragon; Elba native Petty Officer 2nd Class Tray Morrow serves aboard Navy ship; Coffee County’s Ada Donaldson wins 2023 Little Miss National Peanut Festival pageant; Elba Rotarians Kenneth Calhoun, Justin Maddox, Barry Giles and the late Bill Brunson receive Paul Harris Fellow awards; Sunbelt Solomon celebrates grand open of Elba, Alabama location with Governor Kaye Ivey in attendance; Elba Water & Electric Board approves water rate increase

NOVEMBER 2023 – Elba High teacher Al Gilmore wins Who’s Who of American Teachers award; New Brockton Elementary School named Science of Reading Spotlight School by state officials – one of only 12 schools across the state to receive this designation; Barry Moore announces candidacy for Congress in Alabama’s new first district; Charles Schieffer named new mayor for Town of New Brockton; Fire at Marley Acres farm/petting zoo in Elba destroys barn building; Town of Kinston awarded \$400,000 to rehabilitate houses; Elba mini mite cheerleaders win Pea River Youth Football/Cheer League championship for the mini mite division; Elba Postmaster Scott Jones offi-

cially sworn-in for position; New Brockton Elementary School recognized for its Science of Reading Spotlight School designation at county board of education meeting; Ms. Linda’s café in downtown Elba opens for business; Elba and Kinston schools benefit from grant program; Dean Smith announces candidacy to seek re-election of Coffee County Commissioner for District One; New canvas-painted mural revealed at Elba Public Library; James Edward Lee pleads guilty to manslaughter in 2021 death of Shaquetha Sharaey Tyson of Elba; Elba’s Alvin Henderson recognized for breaking two state football records – he now owns the state’s single season rushing touchdown record and the state’s single season total touchdown record; Group looking to bring a halfway house to Elba addresses Elba City Council

DECEMBER 2023 – Longtime Dorsey employee Kenneth Brooks named new plant manager; Charles and Becky Hayes serve as Grand Marshals of Elba Christmas Parade; Zion Chapel Baptist Church presents live drive-thru nativity ‘Journey to The Savior’ with 10 different scenes used to tell the story of the birth of Jesus; Elba High volleyball team recognized at Elba BOE meeting for making it to the Elite 8 in the volleyball playoffs for Class 1A; Kinston High cheerleader win state champ awards for Game Day and Traditional events; The Josh and Jill Wilson family is recognized as The Elba Clipper’s 2023 Christmas Family; CCYLP students meet with county leaders; Troy Bank and Trust celebrates the grand re-opening of its Elba branch following recent building renovations

Scott Jones was officially sworn-in as the Elba/Jack Postmaster during a ceremony held in November at the Elba Theatre.



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ObituariesObits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com**BETTY DAVIS**

Mrs. Betty Davis, age 62, of Opp, Ala., died Friday, Dec. 15, 2023, at Medical Center Enterprise.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 23, 2023, from the Chapel of Coleman Funeral Home, Enterprise, Ala.

She was born Dec. 17, 1960 in Opp, the oldest child of Robert Earl Davis Sr. and Annie J. Davis

Betty graduated from Opp High School – a member of the Class of 1980.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Daryl McDonald, and two brothers, Robert Earl Davis Jr. and Michael Davis.

Survivors include her two daughters: Ashley A. Davis (Dwight), and Crystal Davis, both of Enterprise, Ala.; six grandchildren: Zyon N. Smith, Birmingham, Ala., Jada A. Hines, Villa Rica, Ga., Jordan Z. Hines, KaMora Z. Hines, Jayden D. Jackson, and Cayden D. Jackson, all of Enterprise; one great grandchild: Oz Elliot Hinton; one brother: Ricky Davis (Renae), Pensacola, Fla.; two sisters: Sabrina Davis (Robert), and Vickie Davis (Rick) both of Opp; along with a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

JOE ROBINSON

Mr. Joe Robinson, age 93, of Enterprise, Ala., died Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2023.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec.

23, 2023 at St. Beulah Missionary Baptist Church, Enterprise, Ala. with Coleman Funeral Home of Enterprise directing.

Joe was born Aug. 31, 1930 to the late Thomas and Henrietta Robinson in Albany, Ga. He was educated in Doughty County, Georgia School System, where he graduated from Monroe High School. After high school, he joined the military where he was awarded a medal. Upon separation from the military, Joe joined his older brother, the late Roosevelt Robinson in Enterprise, where he worked in the road construction business.

The Robinson Brothers would leave their hand and footprints on the roads and highways throughout Enterprise and the State of

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The Robinson Brothers would leave their hand and footprints on the roads and highways throughout Enterprise and the State of

Alabama.

Survivors include his devoted wife of almost 70 years: Louise Agnes (DuBose) Robinson, Enterprise; along with his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, siblings, and extended family members.

KATHY JACKSON

Mrs. Kathy Renee Jackson, age 62, of Enterprise, Ala., died peacefully Saturday, Dec.

16, 2023, with her husband holding her hand.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 23, 2023, at Daleville Christian Fellowship, Daleville, Ala., with Coleman Funeral Home of Enterprise directing.

Kathy was born on May 19, 1961 to the late Clifford and Myran Parker in Elba, Ala. She attended school from elementary to high school in Elba. In 2017, Kathy received her GED.

After graduating she continued her education by going to Enterprise Ozark Community College where she studied childhood development. She graduated again in 2018 with her youngest daughter Markell.

Kathy was preceded in death by her parents: Clifford and Myran Parker; her baby brother, Takus Parker; her maternal grandmother, Ruth McKenzie; her mother-in-law, Margie Jackson; and father-in-law, Earl Jackson.

Survivors include her loving husband: Robert Jackson, Enterprise;

one son: Terrell Parker (Emeraude), Ozark, Ala.; three daughters: Natasha Hill (Tyrone), Enterprise,

Naterra Parker (Rickey), Dothan, Ala., and Markell Fitzpatrick, Birmingham, Ala.; her sister: Myra Parker (Carvin), Andalusia, Ala.; three nephews: Tony Parker, Kenny Jackson, and Marcus Parker (Latoya); three nieces: Victoria Metz, Alesha Sharp, Ashley Jackson; seven grandchildren: Kentrell Kani, Kareem Hill, Raven, Nirrell, Terrell Jr. and Gracie Parker; two sisters-in-law: Vickie (Johnny) and Patricia, one brother-in-law: Terry (Rula); and a host of other family and friends.

GARY LAWRENCE MILLS

Mr. Gary Lawrence Mills, age 62, of Daleville, Ala., died Friday, Dec. 22, 2023, after a long illness.

Gary was born in Enterprise, Ala. and attended school in Elba.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba, Ala., beginning at 1 p.m., with Rev. Larry Mills officiating. Visitation will be at Hayes Funeral Home on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 12-1 p.m.

Survivors include his longtime partner: Terri Jordan, Daleville; his mother: Dolores Mills Bermuth, Hoover, Ala.; his brother, Larry Mills, Elba; his sister: Lynn Mills, Hoover; his daughter: Kelley Mills, Denver, Colo.; along with his nieces, nephews and several cousins.

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Reflections

by Michael J. Brooks, Pastor
Siluria Baptist Church

The Things That Endure in Ministry

"Today I went back to the place I used to live," to quote song writer Bill Gaither.

As a pastor for many years, I'm often invited to conduct weddings and funerals in churches I used to serve. On this day I conducted a service for a long-time member who'd had declining health and had been out of state for years living near her son. I remember her as a faithful church member, a Sunday School teacher and a member of the church choir. So, I was happy to share some fond remembrances with the gathered family and friends.

The sumptuous lunch the church served gave opportunity to visit with old friends, and I came away with affirmation of a theory I've had for some time.

Two people told me how much relatives appreciated my visits with them in hospitals and the prayers I prayed with them during their illnesses. Pastors are in hospitals and nursing homes most every week, and it's often hard to remember specifics, but I did remember these two. One of these men was in two separate hospitals in two cities and I thought of him when I visited with our student pastor lately in a particular hospital since this was only my second time in that place and in that city.

No one at the funeral thanked me for any sermons I delivered while their pastor. I don't mean they weren't an appreciative audience, because they were. But I've often believed the most enduring things pastors do is pastoral care—being there in times of need.

Of course, the weekly sermons are important, but I've found it true that congregants don't often remember specific sermons. They may remember a few illustrations or stories, and they may remember a time or two when the pastor messed up, or in my case, when I was stung by yellow jackets while conducting a graveside service!

Someone made a good analogy once about meals at home. We may not remember specific menus too clearly, but we do know we had a nutritious and balanced diet over the years. Our church members may not remember specific sermons but hopefully they know they were fed a steady diet of God's truth.

A pastor must speak the truth and always speak it in love (Ephesians 4:15). But it's also true that what people most seem to remember is the ministry of presence when he or she stands with them in illness or grief, or at the wedding altar or in the baptistery.

Pastors go to seminary to learn to exegete scripture and to systematize theology, and this is good.

But we also learn by experience the value of caring for others who hurt.

**** "Reflections" is a weekly faith column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church, Alabaster, Alabama. The church's website is siluriabaptist.com.**

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LEGAL NOTICES:

IN THE MATTER OF REBECCA L. ARRINGTON, deceased.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION CASE NO: PR-2023-208

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 13th day of December 2023 by the Honorable Jodee Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ BECKIE LYNN PATRICK

Personal Representative

12/21,28&1/4-chg.

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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION**IN RE: ESTATE OF DIANAH P. OATES, a/k/a DIANAH PATRICIA OATES, DECEASED****CASE NO. PR-2023-218****NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS**

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of Dianah P. Oates a/k/a Dianah Patricia Oates, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 11th day of December 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama. Notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate that they are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or they will be barred.

/s/ Shane Oates
SHANE A. OATES
Personal Representative of said Estate
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION**IN RE: THE ESTATE OF**

Angeline Simmons f/k/a Angeline S. Daughtry, Deceased

CASE NO. PR-2023-223**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT**

Letters Testamentary of Angeline Simmons f/k/a Angeline S. Daughtry, deceased, having been granted to Brian D. Daughtry, Personal Representative, on the 18th day of December, 2023, by the Probate Judge, Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson
Probate Judge, Coffee County, Alabama
Richard W. Whittaker, Attorney

300 E. Lee Street
Enterprise, AL 36330
(334) 393-5146
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MAGALENE HALL**

a/k/a,
MADALINE H HALL, DECEASED

KATHERINE ELIZABETH TUTOR PETITIONER.**CASE NO.: PC 2023-057****NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT**

Letters of Administration upon the Estate of said decedent having been granted to the undersigned on the 8th day of December, 2023, by Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Katherine Elizabeth Tutor
Katherine Elizabeth Tutor, Administrator

Jeffery D. Hatcher
Attorney for the Estate

Post Office Box 189
300 South Commerce Street

Geneva, Alabama 36340
334-684-8524
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION**IN RE: THE ESTATE OF**

THELMA JUNE KENNEY, DECEASED.

CASE NO. PC-2023-087

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 12th day of December, 2023, by the Hon. Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Elba Division, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Wanda Sue Bowles
Wanda Sue Bowles
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

Notice of Lis Pendens**THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA**

Case No. 71-CV-2023-900091.00

TYSON BEGLEY

v.

PARCEL #2 OF THE G.G.

HARRELL AND NED

HARRELL PROPERTY,

THELMA J. BLUE,

FERNANDEZ D. BLUE,

and

KEONTAVIOUS J. BLUE

(and their heirs and devisees)

To whom it may concern:

Take notice that Tyson Begley has filed a Petition to Quiet Title in Coffee County Circuit Court as

Petitioner against the aforementioned respondents of said county, Alabama, in an

equitable action pursuant to

Ala. Code 1975 § 6-6-560,

et seq., in the case of Begley v. Parcel #2 of the G.G.

Harrell and Ned Harrell Property, et al., Case No.

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Harrell and Ned Harrell Property, et al., Case No.

SPORTS NEWS

Views From

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

My wife and I joined our daughter Melissa and our grandson Lawson one night last week at an 'escape room' in Dothan and although I provided very little help, our group solved the mystery and escaped with time to spare. It was fun watching Lawson attack the puzzle of who killed a guest at a party, and it required deep thought and deduction from my three helpers to make it out. I'm not much on puzzles and games, but it was fun to watch the family work together.

For what it is worth....

*** **The Elba Tigers posted a disappointing 1-2 record** at last week's holiday tournament at the Elba High gym and again struggled to put the ball in the basket as they scored in the 30's in both losses. Elba played aggressive on defense and allowed an average of less than 50 points a game, but just didn't score enough to come out on top, and will definitely have to get better on offense if they hope to be an area title contender.

*** **The Elba Lady Tigers found out** their #3 state ranking didn't scare anyone at last weekend's holiday tournament as they stumbled to a 1-2 record and got blown out on their own home court in a showdown with 4A power T.R. Miller. The tournament bracket was tough and not a lot of fans thought the Elba girls would come out on top. However, the 12-point loss to Luverne and the 29-point loss to Miller was a shock. Hopefully the tournament will serve as a wake-up call.

*** **While tournament host Elba struggled** to post wins at last week's holiday tournament, the same wasn't true for county neighbors New Brockton and Zion Chapel as the Gamecocks won three straight games to take home the tourney title and the Rebels won two of three games to continue on a roll.

New Brockton came into the event with a less than stellar record and weren't really expected to be a threat in the eight-team field, but came out smoking with an upset win over Brantley, fought past 4A T.R. Miller and then outlasted Luverne to claim the title. The Gamecocks proved to their fans and to themselves they could win no matter the level of competition, and should be looking forward to the rest of the season and their chances in area play.

Zion Chapel scored a season-low points in an opening round loss to 4A T.R. Miller, but bounced back to post impressive wins over Brantley and Pike Lib to close the three-day event with a 2-1 record. The Rebels entered the tournament ranked sixth in the state and again proved the ranking was deserved as they never stopped battling in any of the games and won with hustle and desire. They are a fun bunch to watch.

*** **I know we still have two months left** in the current high school basketball season and then jump into baseball and softball, but over the holidays I peeked ahead to next year's high school football schedules and got excited when I saw some of the season openers. The opening week is set for August 22-23, and games on the schedule include Elba at Luverne, Kinston at Zion Chapel, New Brockton at Pike Lib, Enterprise at Andalusia, Georgiana at Greenville, Houston Academy at G.W. Long, T.R. Miller at Reeltown and Dothan at Chiles, Florida. The Elba-Luverne match-up will be the 75th meeting between the former rivals and the first meeting since back in 2017, while the Kinston-Zion Chapel match-up will be the 48th meeting of cross-county rivals after a two-year break, and the Andalusia-Enterprise match-up will mark the first time since way back in 1976 the two teams have met. There is no doubt the 2024 high school football season will kick off with a bang!

*** **In closing....** I want to congratulate everyone that came together last week to make the third annual Pea River Christmas Classic such a huge success. It takes a lot of work and cooperation from a lot of people to stage an event that brings sixteen high school teams to one site three days in a row, and includes a total of twenty-four games during that span. The Elba coaches and staff put in long hours in preparation and during the tournament to make sure everyone in attendance enjoyed their stay on campus, and after just three years the tournament has become one of the top high school holiday tournaments in the entire state. Great job and keep it going for years to come for all area fans.

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Alabama Department of Labor

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Elba Tigers tumble in tournament

The Elba Tigers co-hosted the third annual Pea River Holiday Classic last week and posted one win in three outings to claim fourth place in the eight-team event.

"I am a little disappointed about only winning one game in the tournament and a little worried about the beginning of area play," admitted Elba's Coach Kelsey Prestwood, "but we played hard in all three games and I know we aren't afraid to work hard to get better and make a run for an area title. We were streaky shooting the ball from behind the arc and are still making too many turnovers to win close games, and we know that all the games we play will be close and will be won in the fourth quarter. Our guys are winners and expect to win every time they get on the court, and hopefully that will carry on to practice and the games as we get into area play."

Following is a recap of last week's three tournament games:

Elba 55 Pike Lib 52

The Elba Tigers staged a fourth quarter rally to squeeze past the Pike Lib Patriots 55-52, in opening round action. Ty Sieving poured in eight first quarter points to help the Tigers jump out to an 18-11 first quarter lead, but the Patriots battled back in

the second quarter and by the end of the half has cut Elba's lead to 34-31. Pike Lib caught the Tigers at 43-43 heading into the fourth quarter. However, Elba regained command and used the inside scoring of Jamal Siler to hold on and post the exciting 55-52 win.

Alvin Henderson and Ty Sieving scored 18 points, apiece, to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Jamal Siler 9, Cody Gray 7 and Cameron Gray 3.

Luverne 44 Elba 38

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and saw a gallant second half rally fall short in a 44-38 second round loss to Luverne. A three-pointer by Alvin Henderson was almost the only offense that Elba could generate in the opening quarter as Luverne ran out to an early 12-4 lead, and while Jamal Siler did begin to score inside in the second stanza, Luverne never lost command and carried a 22-12 lead in at intermission. Emmanuel Cooks scored six points and Alvin Henderson added five in the third quarter to spark an Elba rally as the Tigers pulled within 32-29. However, the rally fell short as Luverne regained command turned back the Tigers 44-38.

Alvin Henderson scored 9 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Jamal Siler 7, Emmanuel Cooks 6, Ty Sieving 6, Brady Johnson 5, Cody Gray 4 and Jacob Watkins 1. Crumbley scored 14 points to lead Luverne.



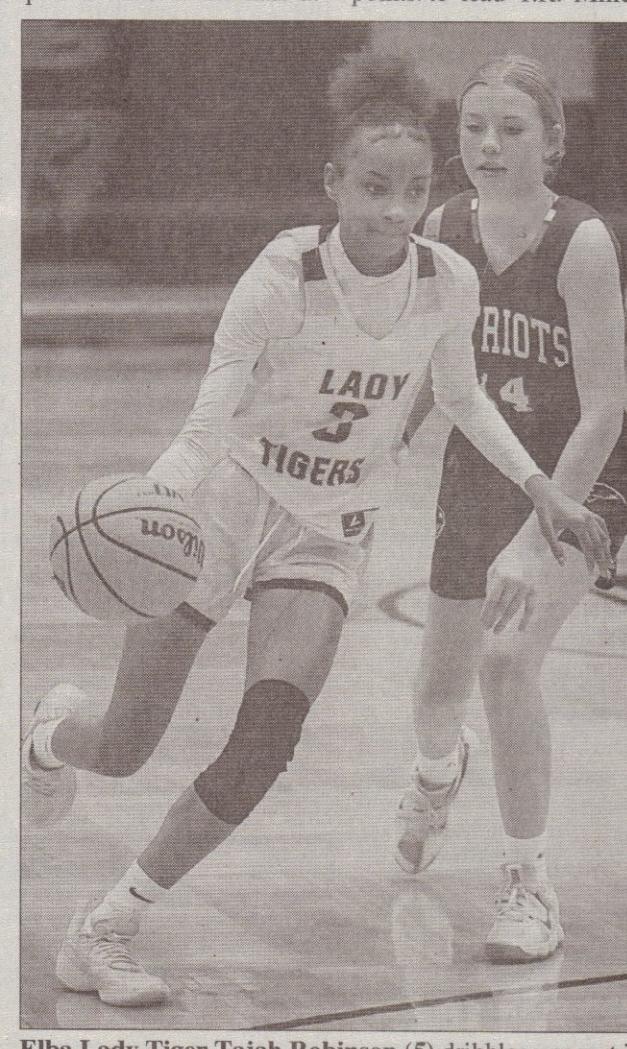
Elba Tiger head coach Kelsey Prestwood watches action in recent Tiger win.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

while also scoring for the Tigers were Jamal Siler 7, Emmanuel Cooks 6, Ty Sieving 6, Brady Johnson 5, Cody Gray 4 and Jacob Watkins 1. Crumbley scored 14 points to lead Luverne.

T.R. Miller 46 Elba 39

The Elba Tigers battled for all four quarters in a hard fought 46-39 consolation game loss to T.R. Miller. Elba trailed only 13-12 after one quarter as Alvin Henderson drained a pair of three pointers and Emmanuel Cooks muscled inside for six points, and pulled even at the half at



Elba Lady Tiger Tajah Robinson (5) dribbles upcourt in a recent win over Pike Lib.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

High School

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Thursday, Jan. 4

Houston County at Elba

Florala at Kinston

Brantley at Opp

Home

Brantley at Florala

Opp at New Brockton

Thursday, Jan. 11

Brantley at Kinston

Friday, Jan. 5

Arlton at Elba

Zion Chapel at Luverne

Goshen at Brantley

New Brockton at Daleville

Monday, Jan. 8

Kinston at Opp

Tuesday, Jan. 9

Elba at Houston County

Zion Chapel at Highland

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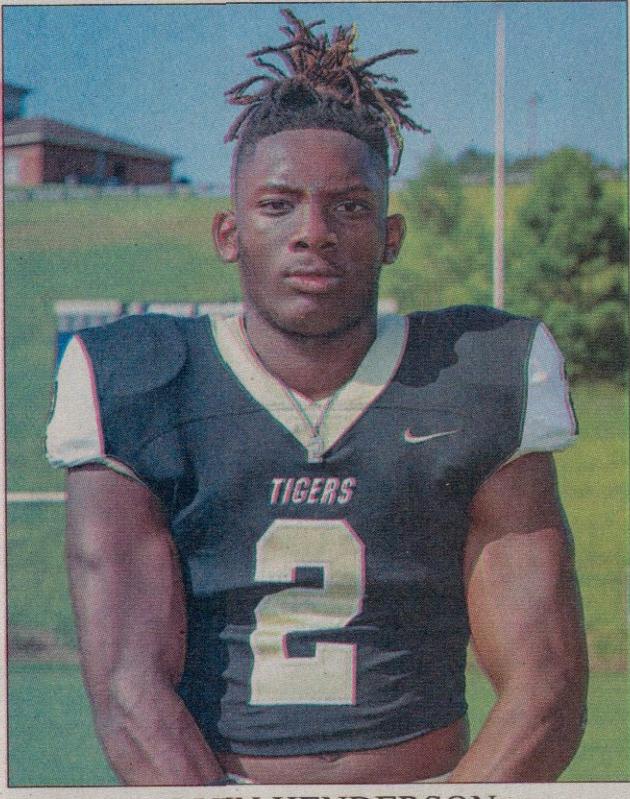
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SPORTS NEWS



ALVIN HENDERSON



ALEX WISECUP



CAYDEN ADINS

Elba dominates 1A All-State squad

The Alabama Sports Writers Association announced its 2023 'All-State' high school football selections last week and included on the honored list were a total of six players from the Elba Tigers, two Brantley Bulldogs, two Zion Chapel Rebels and one Kinston Bulldog.

The Alabama Sports Writers Association has selected a high school football 'All-State' team each December since 1982, with nominations coming from coaches across the state and final selections made by a panel of statewide sports writers.

The Tigers named first team 'All State' included (1st Team) Alvin Henderson, Jamal Siler, Alex Wisecup, Cayden Adkins and Cameron Gray, while Kaleb Mitchell received second team honors.

Henderson, a 5-10, 185-pound, junior, running back, made the statewide list for the second straight season and set the AHSAA state record for rushing yards and rushing touchdowns in a season with 3,523 yards and 61 touchdowns to help lead Elba to the semifinal round of the Class 1A playoffs.

Siler, a 6-4, 285-pound, senior, offensive lineman, recorded 61 devastation blocks, including 41 pancake blocks, and graded out 87 percent on the season, while not allowing a single quarterback sack.

Wisecup, a 5-7, 150-pound, senior, placekicker, scored 105 points during the season as Elba's placekicker, the second most points ever recorded by a kicker in AHSAA history. He connected on 93 of 96 extra-point attempts and was 4 of 5 on field goals, with his longest being a 33-yarder.

Adkins, a 6-1, 235-pound, junior, linebacker, was in on 120 total tackles during the season, with 81 solo stops, 40 tackles for loss, seven quarterback sacks and one tackle for a safety. He added 12 quarterback hurries, forced two fumbles, recovered two fumbles, had two pass interceptions and blocked one punt.

Gray, a 6-0, 180-pound, senior, defensive back, was a repeat pick on the All-State team, and during the season had eight pass interceptions along with five pass breakups, 19 tackles and one forced fumble.

Mitchell, a 6-2, 275-pound, senior, offensive lineman, graded 83 percent with 33 devastation blocks, 20 pancake blocks and did not allow a quarterback sack.

Brantley's Cooper Layton and Romeo Presseley were both named '1st Team' selections. Layton, a 6-0, 180-pound, junior, wide-receiver, rushed for 395 yards and 4 touchdowns on 35 carries; caught 48 passes for 989 yards and 7 touchdowns, and recorded 48 tackles and two pass interceptions on defense. Presseley, a 5-10, 250-pound, senior, offensive lineman, was a five-year starter in the offensive line, graded 90 percent or better in every game, and on defense recorded 60 tackles, with 14 tackles for a loss and seven sacks.

Zion Chapel was represented on the honored list of the state's top players by (2nd Team) Mason Stuart and (Honorable Mention) Brayden Benbow. Stuart, a 5-11,

205-pound, senior, athlete, rushed for 1,239 yards and 15 touchdowns; passed for 1,160 yards and 10 touchdowns; made 21 tackles, including nine tackles for a loss; recorded two quarterback sacks; connected on 3 of 7 field-goal attempts; and was also the team's long snapper on punts. Benbow, a 5-11, 175-pound, sophomore, linebacker, was in on 124 tackles during the season in 10 games and recorded 12 tackles for a loss and two quarterback sacks.

Kinston was represented on the 'All-State' roster by (Honorable Mention) Colby Tew, a 6-2, 190-pound, junior, running back. The Bulldog standout rushed for 1,386 yards and 10 touchdowns in 10 games, an average of 138.6 yards a game and a 6.76-yard average per carry.

Other area players on the 'All-State' roster included Class 7A – (1st Team) Andrew Purcell, junior defensive back, Enterprise; (2nd Team) Keion Dunlap, senior, running back, Enterprise; Caden Anderson, senior, offensive line, Enterprise; Fred Vili, senior, defensive line, Enterprise; JT Hooten, senior, linebacker, Enterprise; Eric Winters, junior, athlete, Enterprise; Lois Snell, junior, offensive line, Dothan; (HM) Ke'Avion Durry, senior, defensive back, Dothan; Class 5A – (1st Team) Antron Mitchell, senior, wide receiver, Eufaula; Benton Dunn, senior, offensive line, Charles Henderson; Nik Peerson, senior, placekicker, Charles Henderson; Zion Grady, junior, defensive line, Charles Henderson; Jy'Won Boyd, senior, athlete, Charles Henderson; Caleb Dozier, senior, athlete, Headland; (2nd Team) Peyton Plott, junior, wide receiver, Carroll; Toney Coleman, senior, defensive back, Eufaula; (HM) Lakeith Person, senior, athlete, Carroll; Class 4A – (1st Team) Kol Petrey, senior, offensive line, Andalusia; Landen Marshall, senior, defensive line, Andalusia; Class 3A – (1st Team) Parker Black, senior, defensive back, Straughn; (2nd Team) Colson Love, sophomore, defensive back, Providence Christian; Kadyn Mitchell, junior, athlete, Houston Academy; Omarion Pinckney, senior, athlete, Daleville; Class 2A – (1st Team) Lane Duett, senior, offensive line, Highland Home; CJ May, junior, defensive line, Highland Home; JJ Faulk, junior, linebacker, Highland Home; Brice McKenzie, senior, defensive back, Highland Home; Ian Senn, senior, defensive back, Ariton; (2nd Team) Jamauri McClure, senior, running back, Goshen; Tyler Chaney, junior, wide receiver, Highland Home; Kain Campbell, junior, offensive line, Cottonwood; Jamario Govan, senior, offensive line, Ariton; Landon Chandler, junior, linebacker, Goshen; Trevor Johnston, senior, linebacker, Ariton; Mason Burkhardt, sophomore, athlete, Wicksburg; Class 1A – (1st Team) Fred Curry, junior, linebacker, Georgiana; Rayshon Coleman, junior, athlete, Flora; (2nd Team) Elijah McMeans, junior, wide receiver, Flora; Cam Miles, senior, linebacker, Georgiana; Marques Payton, senior, athlete, Georgiana; (HM) Kaveon Miles, junior, defensive back, Georgiana; Jacqueese Abner, senior, athlete, Georgiana.

New Brockton wins Pea River Christmas Classic crown

The New Brockton Gamecocks put on a dominating performance last week as they rolled to three straight wins to claim the championship of the third annual Pea River Christmas Classic high school basketball tournament, at Elba High.

New Brockton batters Brantley 73-52

The New Brockton Gamecocks opened play at the Pea River Christmas Classic with a solid 73-52 romp past the Brantley Bulldogs. Yassiah Rousseau scored 25 points and grabbed 20 rebounds to lead the Gamecocks, Josiah Peterson added 21 points and pulled down 10 rebounds, and Baylon Foster scored 12 points and grabbed 4 rebounds. Kenyon Kitton added 8 points and 3 rebounds, Josiah Lewis added 7 points and 3 rebounds, Bryant Crumpler added 6 rebounds, Anthony Silar had 3 rebounds and William Adkison, Dallas Bourne and Cayden Wallace all pulled down 1 rebound.

New Brockton tops T.R. Miller 37-32

The New Brockton Gamecocks had to battle for

all four quarters to escape with a hard fought 37-32 second round win over T.R. Miller, at the Pea River Christmas Classic. Josiah Peterson scored 12 points and grabbed 4 rebounds to lead the Gamecocks, while Kenyon Kitton added 8 points, Anthony Silar scored 7 points and grabbed 6 rebounds, Yassiah Rousseau scored 4 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, Josiah Lewis scored 4 points and had 1 rebound, Baylon Foster scored 2 points and had 1 rebound, and Bryant Crumpler had 1 rebound.

Josiah Peterson added 9 points and 11 rebounds, Anthony Silar added 5 points and 3 rebounds, Cayden Wallace scored 5 points, Kenyon Kitton added 2 points and 3 rebounds, Bryant Crumpler added 2 points and 2 rebounds, and Noah Moore and Blake Cox both pulled down 1 rebound.

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NEW BROCKTON GAMECOCKS - 2023 PEA RIVER CHAMPS



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JAMAL SILER



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COMMUNITY NEWS

CCA bringing The Lettermen to Enterprise for January concert

The Coffee County Arts Alliance will host The Lettermen in concert Monday, Jan. 22, at the Enterprise High School Performing Arts Center. The concert will begin at 7 p.m.

The Lettermen have been

creating musical memories for over 50 years. Tickets are on sale now at www.coffeecountyartsalliance.com or at these (Enterprise located) ticket outlets: The Olive Fruit, The Brick Pub & Pizzeria, and Yancey Parkers.

Feb. 12th is deadline to register to vote in Alabama's March 5 Primary Elections

Coffee County officials remind voters that Monday, Feb. 12, at 4:30 p.m. is the deadline for registering to vote in time for the March 5, 2024 Primary Elections.

The Board of Registrars' office is located in the Coffee County Complex, E. McKinnon St., New Brockton, AL.

Any person may register to vote, provided they:

Visit Coffee County's website for upcoming election information

Coffee County Probate Judge Jodee R. Thompson invites voters to visit the election website: www.coffeecountyvotes.com

While there, one can:

*Register to vote

*Check your registration status

*View a sample ballot

*Find your polling location

*View the offices up for elections

*View a current list of elected officials

*Apply to become a poll worker

*Apply for an absentee ballot, and much more!

- are a citizen of the United States;
- live in Alabama (and the county of registration);
- are at least 18 years old on or before election day;
- are not barred from voting due to a disqualifying felony conviction; and
- have not been declared mentally incompetent by a court

Voters who want to update their voting information to reflect a change in name or address should contact the Board of Registrars. The telephone number for the Board of Registrars is 894-5347.

For further information contact:

Coffee County Board of Registrars
4 County Complex,
Highway 84W
New Brockton, AL

Alabamians may obtain an application or register to vote online at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabamavotes/voter/register-to-vote>. They may also obtain a voter registration application at Driver License Offices, Libraries, and at Alabama Public Assistance offices such as Medicaid, WIC and DHR.



The WoodmenLife Elba Chapter 1932 recently wished the residents and staff of the Elba Nursing and Rehab a very Merry Christmas by presenting socks and blankets to the residents. Local WoodmenLife representatives were Kimberly Bane, Janna Curtis and Linda Westbrook. Those pictured above include (from left) Jennifer Dyess, Kimberly Bane, Janna Curtis, Linda Westbrook, Michelle Ellison, Margaret Holmes, and Patricia Copes.

January is School Board Member Recognition Month in Alabama

The Alabama Association of School Boards (AASB) is calling on Alabama's public education supporters to join in celebrating the dedicated service of school board members throughout

the state. January marks the 31st annual School Board Member Recognition Month in Alabama.

During this special month, schools, employers, community leaders and education advocates will come together to honor the more than 800 local school board members who tirelessly work to improve education in their communities. AASB is providing a comprehensive toolkit to assist anyone who wishes to show their appreciation for these committed individuals.

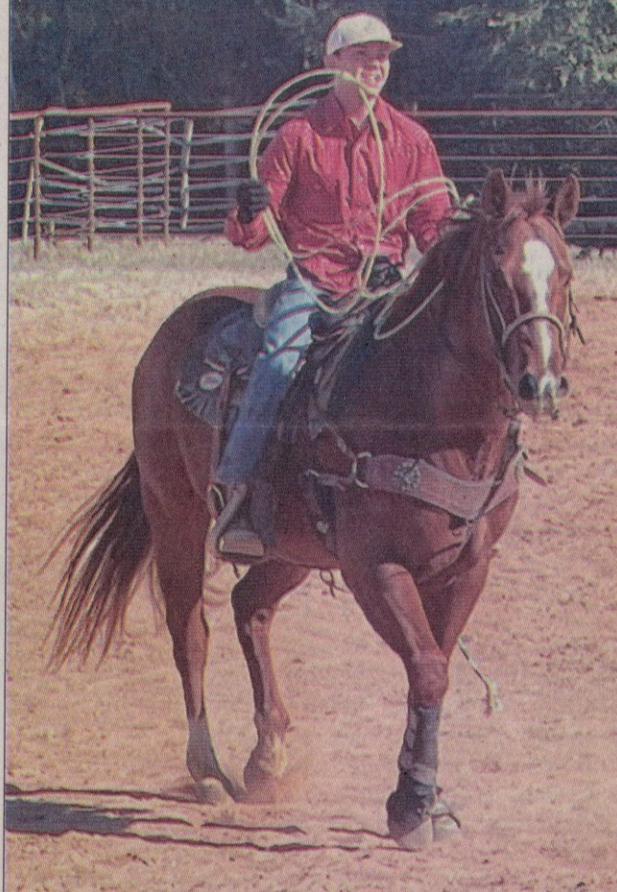
Smith. "Their dedication and commitment to our students and communities deserve our utmost appreciation. We encourage everyone to take this opportunity to recognize their hard work and selfless service."

School board members are appointed officials who give their time and expertise to govern local school districts. They work collaboratively with educators, parents, and community members to make decisions that impact the quality of education provided to students. Their responsibilities include setting policies, approving budgets, and ensuring accountability.

The toolkit, available on the AASB website, offers a range of resources and ideas to help supporters recognize the invaluable contributions made by school board members. From sample social media posts and graphics to suggestions for hosting recognition events, the toolkit provides a convenient guide for expressing gratitude.

This year's theme is "Cultivating Brilliance in Alabama Schools," which highlights the role board members play in fostering excellence in education throughout the state. The theme is also a nod to the Alabama Association of School Boards' "Diamond" 75th anniversary being celebrated in 2024.

"School board members play a crucial role in shaping the future of education in Alabama," said AASB Executive Director Sally



Elba teen Cole Shehee (pictured above) has taken on a new sporting challenge - competitive roping. He enjoyed his first competition over the New Year's holiday. Reports are that he had a successful first event and is already looking forward to the next event. Cole is the son of Kelly and Kayron Shehee of Elba. He is a student at Elba High School.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

of the things we Think, Say or Do



- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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ELBA ROTARY CLUB



Jackson Blair enjoyed shooting fireworks with his family on New Year's Eve. Above, he is shown waving multiple sparklers at once. Jackson, the son of Brian & Megan Blair, is a student at New Brockton Elementary School.

The Grantham Agency

603 N. Claxton Ave., Elba, AL

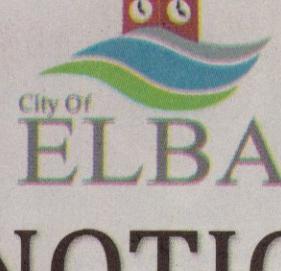
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NOTICE

**City Privilege Licenses
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**January 1, 2024
and delinquent
February 1, 2024**

Penalties will be assessed if license is not purchased prior to February 1.

For further information or to purchase a license, please contact Sandra Berry at (334) 897-2333.

**City of Elba, AL
Sally Bane, City Clerk**

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